

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A connector comprising:
 - an insulator having a contact receiving portion and a retainer receiving portion that communicate with each other;
 - a conductive contact inserted into said contact receiving portion from a first direction; and
 - a retainer inserted into said retainer receiving portion from said first direction for preventing said contact from coming off in a direction opposite to said first direction, said retainer comprising a body portion and an elastic piece that is elastically deformable and joined to said body portion, said body portion having an excessive deformation preventing portion for preventing excessive deformation of said elastic piece toward said body portion, said elastic piece having a specific lock portion, said insulator having a specific lock receiving portion for locking said specific lock portion when said retainer is inserted to a predetermined position of said retainer receiving portion.
2. The connector according to claim 1, wherein said elastic piece is projected from said body portion in a second direction perpendicular to said first direction, said elastic piece is pushed and deformed toward said body portion by an inner wall surface of said retainer receiving portion when said retainer is inserted into said retainer receiving portion.
3. The connector according to claim 1, wherein said elastic piece extends substantially along said first direction to have an extending end joined to said body portion.
4. The connector according to claim 1, wherein said excessive deformation preventing portion is formed in a position that confronts said elastic piece when said retainer is inserted to the predetermined position of said retainer receiving portion.

5. The connector according to claim 1, wherein said excessive deformation preventing portion is projected from said body portion toward said elastic piece.

6. The connector according to claim 1, wherein said retainer is detachably mounted in said insulator.

7. The connector according to claim 1, wherein said specific lock portion is projected outward from an outer surface of an intermediate portion of said elastic piece, said specific lock receiving portion being defined by a through hole formed on the inner wall surface of said retainer receiving portion.

8. The connector according to claim 1, wherein said specific lock portion is projected in a second direction perpendicular to said first direction, said contact receiving portion and said retainer receiving portion being adjacent to each other in a third direction perpendicular to said first and second directions.

9. The connector according to claim 8, wherein said body portion has a particular lock portion projected in said third direction, said insulator having a particular lock receiving portion for locking said particular lock portion.

10. The connector according to claim 9, wherein said particular lock receiving portion is defined by a through hole formed in a wall portion of said retainer receiving portion.

11. The connector according to claim 1, further comprising:
a primary lock mechanism connected to said insulator and said contact for directly locking said contact with said insulator in said first direction; and
a secondary lock mechanism connected to said contact and said retainer for indirectly locking said contact with said insulator through said retainer in said first direction.

12. The connector according to claim 11, wherein said primary lock mechanism comprises:

an engaging hole made in said contact; and
a protrusion protruding from said insulator towards said contact
receiving portion, said protrusion being inserted in said engaging hole to lock
said contact in said first direction.

13. The connector according to claim 12, wherein said insulator has a
deformable portion elastically deformable, said protrusion being formed integral
with said deformable portion.

14. The connector according to claim 11, wherein said retainer has an
insert end, said contact having a shoulder portion which engages with said
insert end in said first direction, said insert end and said shoulder portion being
cooperated with to each another to serve as said secondary lock mechanism.